

NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
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Herald.Letters and packages should be properly
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Volume XXXVIII.....No. 355

AMUSEMENTS TO-MORROW EVENING.

WALLACE'S THEATRE, Broadway and Thirteenth
street.—A MAN OF HONOR.UNION SQUARE THEATRE, Union square, near
Broadway.—LADY AUSTIN.WOODS MUSEUM, Broadway, corner Thirtieth
street.—AFTERNOON AND EVENING.BROADWAY THEATRE, 725 and 730 Broadway.—
THE WOMAN IN WHITE.GRAND OPERA HOUSE, Eighth av. and Twenty-third
st.—HUMPTY DUMPTY ABROAD.FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE, 25th st. and Broadway.—
FANTASIES.BOOTH'S THEATRE, Sixth av. and Twenty-third st.—
KIT, OR THE ARKANSAS TRAVELLER.PARK THEATRE, Brooklyn, opposite City Hall—
ENOCH ARDEN.METROPOLITAN THEATRE, 355 Broadway.—VARIETY
ENTERTAINMENT.BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—KISS IN THE DARK—
THE WICKED WOMAN.MRS. F. E. CONWAY'S BROOKLYN THEATRE.—
THE WICKED WOMAN.LYCEUM THEATRE, Fourteenth street.—LADY OF
LYONS.THEATRE COMIQUE, No. 514 Broadway.—VARIETY
ENTERTAINMENT.NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway, between Prince and
Houston sts.—CHILDREN IN THE WOOD.TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, No. 201 Bowery.—
VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT.BRYANT'S OPERA HOUSE, Twenty-third st. corner
Sixth av.—NEGRO MINSTRELS, &c.RAIN HALL, Great Jones street between Broadway
and Bowery.—THE PILGRIM.THE RINK, 34 avenue and 4th street.—MENAGERIE
AND MUSIC. Afternoon and evening.

ROBINSON HALL, Sixteenth street.—MAGICAL ENTERTAINMENT.

NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, No. 613 Broad-
way.—SCIENCE AND ART.

QUADRUPLE SHEET.

New York, Sunday, Dec. 21, 1873.

THE NEWS OF YESTERDAY.

To-Day's Contents of the
Herald."THE PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND
THE NEW REFORM MOVEMENT"—LEAD-
ER—EIGHTH PAGE.CASTELAN'S CABINET DETERMINE TO DEMAND
THE RESURRECTION OF THE VIRGINIS
AND THE CAPTIVES! AN OFFICIAL NOTI-
FICATION TO THE AMERICAN MINISTER!
SICKLES WILL RESIGN! EXCITED HAV-
ANESE CUTTHROATS IMPERILLING FRIEND
AND FOE—NINTH PAGE.THE SNEAKING OUT OF THE VIRGINIS
PROVED A NECESSITY! WILD FURY OF
THE VOLUNTEERS! THE PLACE OF
BUTCHERY! NEWS FROM THE MAMBI
HEADQUARTERS—FIFTH PAGE.HOT WORK AT THE SIEGE OF CARTAGENA!
SORTIES FROM BOTH SIDES! REPUB-
LICAN OFFICIAL CONGRATULATION—
NINTH PAGE.THE DUTCH SOLDIERS PUSHING THEIR BAR-
BARIAN ENEMIES TO THE WALL IN
ACHEEN! ALL THE TERRITORY LEFT OF
THE ACHEEN RIVER IN THEIR HANDS—
NINTH PAGE.DIREFUL IMMINENCE OF THE EAST INDIAN
FAMINE! THE PROVINCE OF BENGAL
NEARLY DESTITUTE OF FOOD SUPPLIES—
NINTH PAGE.BAKER PACHA TELLS THE BRITISH GEO-
GRAPHICAL SOCIETY WHAT HE SAW,
HEARD AND DID IN THE SOUDAN! THE
CURSE OF CENTRAL AFRICA PUT DOWN!
"THE PRINCE OF WALES" SPEECH—SEVENTH
PAGE.GERMAN AUTHORS AND THEIR WORKS! KING
JOHN OF SAXONY! BRET HARTE COR-
DIALLY WELCOMED—SIXTH PAGE.IMPORTANT ANNUAL MEETINGS OF THE IRISH
CATHOLIC UNION AND THE ORANGE
GRAND LODGE IN THE IRISH CAPITAL!
THE PROPOSED UNIVERSITY! POPULAR
"ROWS AND RUCTIONS"—SEVENTH PAGE.THE FIGHT OVER THE NEW SCHOOLHOUSE AT
WEST FARMS! MASS MEETING OF INDIG-
NANT CITIZENS—PIGEON SHOOTING—
TWELFTH PAGE.FASHIONS FOR THE FAIR! WHAT THE MO-
DISTS HAVE PROVIDED AND THE LEAD-
ERS OF THE TON ARE ARRANGING
THEMSELVES IN—CHRISTMAS ART CURI-
OSITIES—SIXTH PAGE.RING FRAUDS! THE CASE OF WOODWARD—
LEGAL SUMMARIES—THE LOCH EARN'S
OFFICERS ON THE MID-OCEAN HORROR—
TENTH PAGE.CHURCH SERVICES FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY
OF ADVENT! RELIGIOUS NEWS AND COR-
RESPONDENCE—THIRTEENTH PAGE.REFORMING THE JEWS! EX-RABBI SCHLAMO-
VITZ'S GREAT MISSION—SEVENTH PAGE.FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS
YESTERDAY—DARING RAID OF THIEVES—
THE SAMANA COMPANY—ELEVENTH PAGE.

THE TREASURY REPORT SHOWS THAT THE
Treasury holds in trust for national banks
over three hundred and ninety-three million
dollars to secure circulation. The govern-
ment pays on this to the national banks
nearly twenty-four million dollars a year
interest, at six percent, although it gives back
to the banks in their own currency over three
hundred and forty-eight millions to invest
and make interest on over again. These
favored institutions, in fact, have ninety per
cent of their capital in their hands to use, and
yet receive from the government six per cent
on that capital. Mr. Richardson wants
money and proposes to tax commerce and the
necessaries of life to obtain it. If he will pro-
pose to sweep away the national bank circula-
tion and make all our currency of one de-
nomination, legal tender, he will save nearly
twenty-four million dollars now given as a
bonus to the national banks and be just so
much richer without taxing the people at all.

WHAT HAS BECOME OF THE valiant editor
who vowed to leave Cuba forever in the event
of the surrender of the Virginis? Is he the
same person who is reported to have been
robbed? If so, let the Havana liquor dealers,
landladies and washerwomen look out for
their small accounts before the gallant man
departs from the ever faithful island, and let
the Havana police inquire whether the al-
leged burglary was really a genuine affair.

The Protestant Episcopal Church and
the New Reform Movement.

Religion, in spite of the so-called men of
science, is still a power in the modern world.
The influence of the Scottish Hume and the
French Voltaire, we admit, is not yet dead;
but Darwin and Tyndall and Huxley, with all
their large knowledge and the support which
they claim from the daring thinkers of the
past, have not yet been successful in making
men indifferent to what are called the inter-
ests of religion. The materialistic tendencies
of the day are no doubt powerful. It would
be strange if they were not. They are fed and
encouraged by many of the ablest minds and
by much of the best thinking of the hour. In
social circles, public and private, learned
fathers and precocious youths and strong-
minded ladies preach infidelity as the word
was once understood, laugh at the preachers
of the Gospel, and, with a nonchalance which
is sometimes as amusing as absurd, pro-
nounce the churches institutions much
more convenient than necessary. Milk
for babes, but not strong meat
for men—such is the too general
opinion entertained regarding the ecclesi-
astical teaching of the present. That the Dar-
wins and the Tyndalls and the Huxleys have
taught and are teaching skillfully and with
success, and that their disciples are numerous
and enthusiastic, we cannot refuse to admit;
but, notwithstanding the skill and success of
the teaching, the numbers and enthusiasm of
the following, the churches remain strong,
and ecclesiastical questions are the most vital
and interest-commanding of all the questions
which agitate this strangely perplexed, con-
fused and agitated age.

The late Franco-German war did much to
convince the world that the religious senti-
ment was not yet dead. Sympathy with the
combatants during the war was very much
determined by religious belief. It is the same
today. Germany is the recognized repre-
sentative of one form of Christianity. France
is the recognized representative of another. The
two great rival nationalities divide the world
at this moment almost as much as they did
during the war, and the determining and
dividing element, now as before, is religion.
Religion is not only a prominent and power-
ful question as between nations; it is a vital
and disturbing element in the politics of all
the leading nations of the day. In Germany
all the power of a strong government is being
exerted to place the Church in a condition of
subordination to the State. It is the same in
Switzerland. It is the same in Italy. It is to
a certain extent the same in Spain, although
the present republican government has in
this respect—and wisely, perhaps—been less
daring than some of its predecessors. To
come to the New World, the fight for sup-
remacy between Church and State is as vigor-
ously carried on in the Brazilian Empire as in
the Mexican Republic. Scottish and English
politics are both seriously affected by religious
questions, and it is a religious difficulty which
lies at the bottom of the home rule move-
ment in Ireland.

In this country and on this free soil we have
not and cannot have religious difficulties in
precisely the same form in which they exist in
the various countries to which we have re-
ferred. Here the State knows no religion.
All forms of Christianity are free—free as they
are nowhere else on the face of the earth.
Under his own vine and under his own fig tree
every man may worship, and no one can, with
the sanction of law, seek to disturb or make
him afraid. With us religion is neither
forced nor resisted; but of all the plants
which we have imported from the Old World,
no one has more prospered or given nobler
fruitage than that of the Christian religion.
In spite of the absence of State patronage and
State control Christianity flourishes in the
midst of us, and all the various denomina-
tions reveal unmistakable signs of strength
and give abundant proof of their usefulness.
The materialistic teachers have no doubt their
followers here as they have in Europe; but,
strong as are the so-called scientists, stronger
still are the men who remain in the old path-
ways and steadfastly cling to the Book of
Revelation as well as to the book of nature.
The schism which has just taken place in the
Protestant Episcopal Church deserves to be
looked at from this point of view. Whatever
the merits or demerits of the new movement
of which Bishop Cummins and Bishop
Cheney are now the recognized leaders, it
affords unmistakable evidence that our
Christianity has in it the genuine elements
of vitality, and that we have men in the
midst of us who are as able and as willing as
in the brightest days of all the Christian past
to make for conscience' sake needed effort and
needed sacrifice. In the Episcopal Church
Cummins and Cheney were men of recognized
influence. That to that Church both were
sincerely attached we have no reason to doubt,
but every reason to believe. To sever them-
selves from that Church as they have done,
and to attempt to build up a new Church,
required not a little of the spirit of the
martyrs of olden times; and, in so far
as they have stood up for principle,
fought for conscience, revealed daring
and made sacrifices, they have a right to be
spoken of with the highest respect and they
have a claim on the public for sympathy and
support. Not a word has been said either by
friend or foe to detract from the character of
the two men who have taken the lead in this
secession movement from the Protestant Epis-
copal Church. That they are men of respect-
able ability and that their characters are
worthy in every respect of their sacred pro-
fession has been universally admitted. In the
Episcopal Church both men were prosper-
ous; and the one and the other might
have risen to the highest position which it is
in the power of the Church to confer. Not
satisfied with the prevailing practice which
they believed the laws of the Church, properly
understood and properly interpreted, dis-
allowed, and finding it impossible to check
the growing evil, they claimed their rights, as
men and as ministers of the Gospel, and re-
tired from an association with which they
were no longer in sympathy. In his own
church at Chicago and when the congregation
were called to decide whether or not he should
accept the office of bishop in the new Church,
Dr. Cheney put the case well when he said:—
"Previous to the action taken by my friend
Bishop Cummins the only way out of our
difficulties that seemed possible to me was
the organization of a truly Protestant Epis-
copal Church. We are Episcopalians by
choice, and many of us by education. We

have been urged to withdraw; but I have uni-
formly given the answer that, sooner or later,
some bishop would see the monstrous actions
taken, and that, through him, we would come
out right in the end. At last a bishop has
seen this."

It is not our business to discuss here the
question of apostolical succession or to decide
whether or not Episcopal rights once conferred
can be withdrawn. To most people it seems
plain that if apostolical succession is a property
of the Protestant Episcopal Church, which is
itself a seceding Church, it is a property
which belongs to the new organization quite
as much as to the old. Bishop Cummins was
a regularly ordained bishop when he ordained
Dr. Cheney; and if there be any virtue in
ordination and the laying on of hands, that
virtue has been transmitted to and remains
with the seceders. The right to secede and
the wisdom of seceding in this case have been
much discussed. The right to secede ought
to be plain to all who do not abide by and
fully recognize the authority of Rome. What
was the Reformation, of which the Protestant
Episcopal Church is a not undistinguished
monument, but a grand secession? If seces-
sion is wrong, it is wrong absolutely and
always; and the wrong rests as much with
the venerable establishment which dates back
to the days of Henry VIII. as with the younger
offender of the year of our Lord 1873. The
wisdom of secession is proved by the fact that
large numbers of the clergy of the Episcopal
Church, Dr. Tyng, Jr., included, have admit-
ted that reform inside the Church was impos-
sible. The new Church is fairly launched; it
has many friends and well-wishers, and it will
be well for the authorities of the Protestant
Episcopal Church to abandon all ideas of
persecution and to leave it alone. From this
new movement we expect little evil, but much
good. It gives proof of vitality, not of decay.

The First Month of the First Session
of the Forty-third Congress.

The two houses of Congress having ad-
journing over to Monday, the 5th of January,
1874, the record of their doings for this month
of December is before the country. It does
not amount to much, and it warns the country
to prepare for a long, exhausting and com-
paratively fruitless session. Five millions of
money have been voted to complete the re-
pairs commenced by the Secretary of the
Navy on our available ships of war; a miser-
able apology in the shape of a modification of
the increased salary and back pay grab of the
last Congress has been passed by the House;
also a general amnesty bill and a half-way re-
construction of the Bankrupt law—all of which
have been hung up to dry in the Senate. A
bill providing for the redemption of the loan
of 1853 (sixteen millions) has passed both
houses, and this recapitulation covers the
legislative work of the two houses since the
first Monday in December.

It may be contended, however, that, com-
pared with the first month of most of our
Congresses of the last forty years, this is not
a discouraging report; that the first month of
a new Congress is necessarily absorbed in the
organization of the two houses, in the ap-
pointment of the regular committees of each,
in the preparation and introduction of bills
and resolutions and in the general work of
clearing the field for business. It may be
further contended that in these needful pre-
liminaries for active business operations the
five or six hundred bills and resolutions intro-
duced in the two houses since the first day
of this month are evidence of an industrious
opening, and indicate a conscientious appre-
ciation by the members of the House and of
the Senate of the work before them and of the
wants and expectations of the country.

We find, however, that of these numerous
bills introduced in the two houses, while com-
paratively a few are intended for the relief
of the Treasury or the financial embarrassments
of the country, an unusually large proportion
are bills making lavish appropriations of the
public money, the public lands and the public
credit, to internal improvements of all sorts,
for national universities and all the various
schemes and jobs of a powerful, organized and
expectant lobby. These preliminaries for the
business of the session are not encouraging.
Nor is the confusion of ideas developed in the
numerous conflicting schemes proposed for
the relief of the Treasury and the country from
our existing financial difficulties. The con-
fusion of ideas and quick prescriptions pre-
sented on this subject are very discouraging,
particularly when the dominating idea and
purpose of the responsible party in Congress
appears to be a reckless inflation of the
currency, a disposition to shirk the respon-
sibilities of the present time and to leave the
consequences to take care of themselves.
Possibly within the next ten days,
during which most of the members of the
two houses will be among their constituents,
our Congressional Solons may pick up some
useful information in reference to the ways
and means required to supply the deficiencies
of the Treasury and to relieve the country of
this financial pressure without imposing upon
the people new burdens of taxation.

The prevailing idea among the people is
that, inasmuch of the continuance of peace with
foreign Powers, the policy of Congress and the
administration should be the policy of econ-
omy, retrenchment and reform; and here, in the
application from the House committees on
the subject to the executive departments for a
general reduction of their estimates for the
ensuing fiscal year, we have a movement which,
we trust, will not be abandoned. Not infla-
tion nor increased taxation, but reduced ex-
penditures, is the only safe rule of action for
this session of Congress.

A NEW SCENE IN AN OLD FARCE.—Now
that the Virginis has been sneaked out of
Havana and the survivors of her passengers
and crew are on their way to the United
States, the Spanish government, as our cable
despatch informs us, has resolved to reclaim
both the vessel and the prisoners, and has
sent a notification to that effect to the
United States Minister at Madrid. If this
new scene in the farce is intended
to tickle the vanity of the ginger-pop Dons
and to save Castelar, we can smile at it and
let it pass. It may afford the Spaniards some
gratification, and certainly cannot do us any
harm. But it is just possible that it may be
designed as an excuse for some contem-
plated action against the vessel and the sur-
vivors when they reach the United States. In
this view only is the apparently puerile action
of the Spanish government deserving of serious
consideration.

Reform Still Wanted in the Streets.

It should, in a city like New York, be un-
necessary to urge forever on our city author-
ities their duties in regard to keeping the
thoroughfares in decent condition. In Tam-
many times the mud on the streets was con-
sidered part of the indictment against that
corrupt combination. Reform, so called, has
left the evil state of chronic filthiness in our
streets unremedied. A smart shower of rain
makes our city horrible and a paradise only
for bootblacks. Let the sun dry up the mud,
and there is a chance that the wind will clean
portions of the streets by lifting the dust in
clouds into the air, there to form a deli-
cious addition to the atmosphere we breathe.
The dust, of course, will be precipitated in a
short time and the round of mud begins
again. The city in this respect is treated as
though, on the first day of every year, the en-
tire city government were dipped in a Lethe
of obliviousness to all the experience of past
years. There is no foresight displayed.
Clouds of dust are the first indication that
the blustery March month is upon us. The mud
of April finds our City Fathers quarrelling
over means to fight the dust. The hot
weather announces itself to our nostrils from
heaps of decaying vegetable matter, the fetid
remains of dead dogs and horses and the
odoriferous offal of the rendering establishments.
The authorities think of abating these olfactory
nuisances about the time of the first frost. A
blockade of our streets is the first intimation
that snow is a thing that may be expected to
fall in December. It may not agree with the
notions of our embryonic Clays in the
Common Council to trouble themselves about
the fluctuations of municipal mud while the
world of politics is their kitchen garden; but,
if they attended to all their duties, we should
have clean streets, and our City Fathers would
have less time to throw mud at each other. If
the lordly patrolman, too, was not so much
wrapped up in serene self-contemplation
he might report delinquencies against the
laws of street cleanliness which are supposed
to exist in the shape of city ordinances. The
Board of Health takes occasional spasms of
that thing which is next to godliness, and for
a hot month or so the welkin rings with
"reports," but the next hot season will find
the Board astonished that dead horses, swelter-
ing pools and festering vegetable garbage
are bad things for the health of the city. The
power seems to reside nowhere for suppress-
ing nuisances, if we judge by the persistence
with which they reappear when the first
chance offers; yet, if the laws are examined,
it will be found that the authority is every-
where. The plain fact is that from the Alder-
men down to the patrolmen our officials are
above their business.

From present appearances the first serious
fall of snow will find the officials as impotent
as Pliny the Younger before the showers
of ashes from Vesuvius. Do they ever
wander as far up town as the works on Fourth
avenue? If an Alderman or Assistant Alder-
man musing on ward politics, a police cap-
tain dreaming of capturing Sharkey, or a
patrolman wrapped up in the usual ecstatic
contemplation of himself should walk over
the unprotected precipices on Fourth avenue
to the breaking of his neck, something might
be done to protect the public, as Sydney
Smith believed in the matter of railroad ac-
cidents if a bishop were once killed. At present
not only the Fourth avenue "improvements,"
but all the cross streets in that portion of the
city, abound in traps, wherein every dis-
agreeable fate besets the wayfarer, from the
common one of immersion to the knees in
mud up to the actual loss of life. Why these
things remain unattended to is puzzling.
Somebody is to blame; but the authorities
go upon the theory that it is nobody's business
to hold anybody accountable. This is a
theory from which we emphatically dis-
sent. The belated citizen can walk off
almost any of the piers on either side of the
city without a single barrier to interpose be-
tween him and his body furnishing a snug
fee for the coroner or food for the fishes. We
cannot think that the coroners form a con-
spiracy to keep the piers unprotected; yet
among all mankind the benefit inures only to
them. Why has Worth street been left for
years a hideousness? When our sidewalks are
slippery the smooth iron cellar plates will
break legs by the dozen, and the papers will
exclaim against the danger to limb. Why not
preserve the legs unbroken by seeing to the
cellar plates? We should like to see these
matters taken systematically in hand by the
"authorities." Efficient ordinances can be
made, providing against every abuse we have
mentioned, and with the present machinery of
government they could be adequately enforced.
Do not be above your duties, O city magnates!
A time may come when a model Alderman
will be appreciated and when the present im-
proved type of lobbying, caucusing and
mud-fingering City Father will be as a pariah.
This, possibly, is looking too far ahead, but
we advise the authorities to work up to the
ideal as diligently as possible and to give us
a clean city to begin with.

THE BRITISH VIEW OF THE RIGHT OF SEARCH
undergoes modification according to circum-
stances. The leading press, commenting upon
that part of the President's Message referring
to the Virginis, admits that our government
is carrying out the time-honored doctrine of
the country. It, however, calls the claim of
immunity from search of vessels carrying the
American flag "pretensions," though this
claim has been asserted for three score and
ten years, and though we have fought for it
on land and sea. The remembrance of this is
not at all agreeable to the British, though
they have been compelled to concede the im-
munity we have claimed and successfully main-
tained. Still, the English press cannot help
carping. It questions whether the "immu-
nity to an open pirate"—meaning the Vir-
ginis—can be sustained. But the question
is not one of an "open pirate," or a pirate at
all. The Virginis was not a pirate. She was
not an armed cruiser, preying upon the com-
merce of any nation. She was simply a
trader—a contraband trader, perhaps—which
in the open seas was protected by her flag,
and was only subject to seizure as a contra-
band when found within the waters of a for-
eign Power for contraband purposes. The
term "pirate" would not have been applied to
her if she had been a British vessel. But John
Bull is delighted when he can show his spleen
on this question of right of search, and when
he thinks he has a chance to say anything
derogatory to America or Americans.

Our Religious contemporaries—Agassiz,
Darwinism and Other Matters.

Our brethren of the religious press this
week devote unusual space to the considera-
tion of the worth and services of the deceased
Professor Agassiz. For example, the *Methodist*
affirms that Agassiz was a Christian. "He be-
lieved in God, that man was created by God,
and not self-developed; and that the whole
scheme of the creation was designed by an intel-
ligent, all-powerful Being, and was not a self-
existing, self-directing concourse of atoms.
For the expression of this belief he has been
assailed by the men who think themselves
wiser than their Creator, but who have harmed
him not."

The *Christian Union* avers that the death of
Agassiz is a public calamity. His devotion to
science "combined the simplicity of an in-
genious nature with an enthusiasm like that
of a saint. It was this unreserved, unselfish
devotion to his work that brought his life to a
premature end."

The *Union* also has something to say about
"Liberty in the Church," and here the pastor-
editor has something to say in his own behalf.
"If a man," he asserts, "sets out to be an
exponent of a creed he will not be allowed to
give to the creed of his sect a false construc-
tion. But if his only idea of a creed is that
it is material with which to work for the sal-
vation of men, then he will have a latitude in
the use of it as great as he may desire. For
creeds are not sacred or divine. They are
means to an end, and the end is a thousand
times more important and sacred than the
means." "Are churches," exclaims the
editor, "to be controlled by creeds or by living
men? If seeds can agree to permit liberty in
the construction of articles of faith, is it not
better to abide at home in the church of one's
choice? And if a sect is not yet enlightened
enough to permit such liberty of thought, is it
not a good and honest thing for a man to
know his place, and labor to bring the Church
up to a nobler ground of toleration?"

The *Christian Intelligencer* declares that "the
Church is not an automaton, a machine to be
wound up and run down and wound up again."

The *Baptist Weekly* discusses the views of
Agassiz on Darwinism. He declares his article,
published in a monthly magazine, to be an able
refutation of the English philosopher's specula-
tions, and Dr. Patton thinks the descent of
man from soft shell clams is, as a Scotch ver-
dict might be given, "not proven." "It is,
therefore, with the deepest sorrow," the re-
verend doctor says, "that we are called upon
to record the death of this greatest of living
scientists just at the opening of a service
promising one of the most important contribu-
tions on a topic which has enlisted the thought
of the ablest minds of the age, and which
bears at once on a cherished theory of science
as in conflict with the deductions of theology."

The *Evangelist*, with its usual thoughtfulness,
speaks a kindly word for the poor in
connection with the services of the "New
York Association for Improving the Condition
of the Poor," and says that the experience of
the last generation "suggests no improvement
on the method of the association, which,
mainly through city missionaries, selects its
visitors, and, in harmony and co-operation
with them, carries out its plans of charity,
and accomplishes a work whose value cannot
be estimated."

In regard to the demise of Professor Agassiz
the senior editor of the *Observer* (Dr. S.
Ireneus Prime) asserts that one of his
(Agassiz's) last letters was one "expressing
regret that he could not accept his invitation
to deliver a series of lectures against the Dar-
win theories in New York this winter, and
declining on account of his feeble health."

The *Freeman's Journal* (which usually pro-
fesses to have the only if not the earliest news
from Rome) refers to the encyclical letter of
the Pope, issued on the 21st November last,
and says that, forgetting his own sorrows,
"our Holy Father extends his sympathy and
lavishes his love on the faithful Bishops of
Switzerland, persecuted and exiled for the
faith. Turning next to Germany," says the
editor, "he stigmatizes the indecency and
the bad faith of the so-called 'Emperor of
Germany,' in having published, against all
the rules of kindly etiquette, the letter of private
expostulation that he addressed to the
stupid William, and of having accom-
panied it with an answer full of gross in-
sults, not only to the Pope, but especially to
his dear brethren and sons, the pre-
lates that the German despot is persecuting.
The encyclical then," it appears, "speaks of
the abortive attempt of the new heretics, call-
ing themselves 'Old Catholics,' to get up a
new church; and the Holy Father, by name,
excommunicates Joseph Hubert Reinkens,
who got himself, sacrilegiously, consecrated
Bishop by a rancid old Jesuit heretic and
schismatic who was, sacrilegiously, made a
schismatic Bishop."

The *Christian At Work* had better be at
work if it proposes to give any new ideas to
the reading public, although the fruitful Rev.
De Witt Talmage is announced as the editor.

The *Jewish Times* gives notice to the
Jewish festival called Chanukah, or festival of
consecration, copies something about Agassiz,
but, strange to say, has nothing original
to utter about the deceased philosopher.

GRANT ON HIS CHIEF JUSTICE.—General Grant
is reported as saying that before making the
nomination for Chief Justice he had given
the matter very earnest consideration and
had arrived at the conclusion that Mr. Wil-
liams was the best man, and that he does not
intend in any circumstance to withdraw his
name. There are noteworthy points in this
little speech. First, he gave the subject "very
earnest consideration." We see the value of
the President's "very earnest consideration"
in the results, and we suppose if he had
thought a little more it might have been worse.
Next, he will not, in any event, withdraw the
name. As there are others to be pleased be-
side Grant—as his "very earnest considera-
tion" is the measure of all public transac-
tions—it is to be hoped that in future he will
consider less earnestly and change his mind
very often.

WOMEN DOCTORS.—A COMEYABLE ADVANCE-
MENT.—One of the oldest and largest medical
societies in the United States, that of the
county of New York, a society which has num-
bered among its members such names as
Mott and Francis, and which now embraces
the leading physicians of the city, has taken a
commendable step in recognizing women doc-
tors who have graduated in regular schools.
A lady who has graduated with honor in the

University of France is to read a paper before
the society to-morrow evening, the subject
being the "Pathology of Infantile Paralysis."
Under this potent influence the prejudice of
a portion of the profession against recognizing
and consulting with female practitioners will
rapidly disappear.

Obstruction of the Roads—A Hint for
the Police.

The streets of New York are notoriously a
disgrace to the city. With a few exceptions
they are in a deplorable condition, and in
some instances, in the most crowded localities,
it is scarcely possible to drive over them with
safety. This is due partly to the swindling
paving contracts made in the palmy days of
the old Ring rule and partly to the imbecility
and mistaken economy of our present municipal
government. We have honesty and
efficiency in our Public Works Department,
but the improvement of the streets is pre-
vented by the obstructiveness and incapacity
of the Finance Department and the stupidity
of the Board of Apportionment. We have
treated elsewhere of the necessity of some
efficient action, now that the season of snow
is approaching; but there are some evils
which might be removed at once by
a little better management than we now
have on the part of the police. Independent
of the bad condition of the roads, citizens,
who are in the habit of driving on the
avenues and streets on which horse cars
run, are subjected to vexations and un-
necessary delay by the obstruction of
the road on the sides of the tracks by
loaded trucks and wagons. There is gen-
erally ample space for two vehicles to pass
each other in the space between the track
and the curbstone; but a carriage may be com-
pelled to drive on for many blocks behind a
creeping wagon before the driver of the latter
will trouble himself to pull out of the centre
of the space, and give room for those in his
rear to pass him without turning out over the
rails. The annoyance is especially felt by
medical men whose time is valuable alike
to themselves and their patients. The truck-
men even appear to relish the fun of keeping
a carriage or a light wagon behind them as
long as they can, and there is no one to pre-
vent them from indulging in the amusement.

In London the police regulations in crowded
thoroughfares are excellent. Loaded wagons,
which are driven slowly, are compelled to fall
into line on the sides of the road, while a
space is kept clear in the centre for vehicles
driven more rapidly, and the crossings are
kept open by allowing the passage in the
different directions to be made alternately
until each line is relieved. Here we have
police regulations on Broadway, but the rest
of the thoroughfares are left to take care of
themselves. We have a mounted police, and
they might be used to advantage to prevent
such annoyances as those to which we allude.
The drivers of trucks and wagons should be
made to understand that they must not
obstruct the roads where it can be avoided;
that it is their duty to give space at once to
vehicles in their rear to pass them, and that
when halting they must drive close to the curb
and leave the road as little obstructed as pos-
sible. Our patrolmen have not very hard
labor to perform, and the Commissioners
should at once issue an order requiring them
to keep the streets and avenues free from the
unnecessary obstruction we have pointed out.
This may, indeed, be at present a part of their
duty, but if so it is certainly neglected.

PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

General George W. McCook, of Ohio, is registered